

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTER 00053 252142Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 RSC-01 DRC-01 /018 W

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R 252230Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL MONTERREY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1078

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MONTERREY 0053

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAG : EIND, ETRD, US, MX.

SUBJ: MEXICAN INDUSTRY MEETS TO REVIEW SCRAP METAL SUPPLY CRISIS

1. GENERAL MANAGER OF NUEVO LEON CHAMBER OF MANUFACTURERS ANNOUNCED ON 24 JANUARY THAT SHORTAGE OF SCRAP IRON HAS REACHED CRITICAL STAGE FOR LOCAL INDUSTRY. DESCRIBING CRISIS AS DUE TO FAILURE OF TRADITIONAL SUPPLIER (U.S.) TO MEET DEMAND, HE PLACED MEXICO'S REQUIREMENTS FOR 1974 AT 1,367,951 TONS. FOR FIRST QUARTER, REQUIREMENT IS 320,538 TONS AND U.S. DPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAS AUTHORIZED EXPORT OF ONLY 165,000 TONS, HE STATED. INDUSTRY THUS FACES SERIOUS SLOW-DOWN.

2. SPECIAL MEETING OF METAL INDUSTRY FIRMS WILL TAKE PLACE IN MEXICO CITY ON JANUARY 25 TO REVIEW SITUATION AND STUDY POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO USE OF U.S. SCRAP. MEETING WILL BE COORDINATED BY MEXICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE IN COOPERATION WITH STEEL INDUSTRY COORDINATING COMMISSION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IRON, STEEL, INDUSTRY, SUPPLIES, MEETINGS, EXPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MONTER00053
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MONTERREY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740116/aaaaaofh.tel
Line Count: 45
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 OCT 2002 by daviscw>; APPROVED <25-Nov-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEXICAN INDUSTRY MEETS TO REVIEW SCRAP METAL SUPPLY CRISIS
TAGS: EIND, ETRD, US, MX
To: STATE MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005